

Then, in 1982, he ran for and was elected to serve as Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries for the State of Alabama and was re-elected to serve a second term in 1986. In 1991, he was appointed by President George H.W. Bush to be the Executive Director of the Alabama Farm Services Administration. Beginning in 1995, he was appointed by the Huntsville City Council to serve on the governing board of Huntsville Hospital, and was appointed by Alabama Governor Fob James to serve on the Auburn University Board of Trustees in 1996.

Sometimes, he was a man of few words. However, when Albert McDonald spoke, people listened. He was a leader and statesman in every sense of the word, as well as my father-in-law. He will be missed by so many at home and across the state. I can only imagine that he was welcomed to heaven with those sweet words, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

TRIBUTE TO DARRELL G. RICE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Darrell G. Rice, a dedicated firefighter, community member and friend who passed away on April 22, 2014. As a pillar of the community, he will be deeply missed.

By the nature of their jobs, firefighters must be committed individuals willing to put their lives in harm's way for the safety of their communities and for the protection of life and property for those surrounding them. Darrell Rice not only fulfilled these responsibilities, but often went above and beyond the call of duty throughout his twenty-two years of service. Darrell took on the challenges of this position with full knowledge of the inherent dangers he would have to face daily. This willingness to accept a responsibility of such magnitude speaks to Darrell's courage and dedication.

Day in and day out, Darrell faithfully represented his department and acted as a refreshing inspiration to all who surrounded him. As a strong believer in teamwork, Darrell would continually provide encouragement to all staff. Darrell was successful in spreading this sentiment throughout the community as well during his time in his final assignment as an inspector. Working with the Fire Prevention Division's Petroleum Chemical Unit, Darrell worked with businesses to ensure their safety for the public, and understood the responsibility of his job.

As such a dedicated individual, Darrell will always be remembered for his incredible work ethic and charismatic leadership. I extend my deepest sympathies and condolences to Darrell's family and friends, most especially to his wife, Phyllis, and his daughter, Candace, of Corona, California. Although Darrell may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the community remains and will never be forgotten.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PRIORITIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Human Trafficking Prioritization Act, which will bolster America's efforts to prevent human trafficking.

I want to commend Chairman ROYCE and Representative CHRIS SMITH for bringing this measure forward.

Despite international condemnation, trafficking in persons is still a prolific violation of human rights that affects people in every country, including the United States.

This transnational crime exploits the most vulnerable and often subjects the victims to mental and physical abuse.

The United States has responded to this widespread human rights violation by creating in the State Department the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, which focuses on the prevention and prosecution of human trafficking, and the protection of its victims.

This legislation would further strengthen U.S. anti-trafficking policies by designating this office as a bureau with direct access to the Secretary of State, all without expanding the role of the Federal government.

A vote for this legislation is a vote in favor of prioritizing the protection of human dignity.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PAULETTE BROOKS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2014

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Paulette Brooks, of Holden, Massachusetts, who passed away suddenly on July 24th, and to offer my sincere condolences to her family, friends and colleagues. Ms. Brooks was a devoted civil servant at the Department of Homeland Security Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman. Her untimely death leaves a great loss in the Department and in the world of immigration expertise. Her legacy is one of tireless, innovative and distinctive service to thousands of American citizens, their families and immigrants that include the most vulnerable among us.

Ms. Brooks completed law school after raising a family while a widow. She then offered pro bono legal services in her community and rose to serve the CIS Ombudsman with distinction in customer service excellence and legal acumen. She served as an expert in Child Status Protection Act matters, Violence Against Women Act protection cases and in assisting members of the military with immigration or naturalization matters impacting the soldier or his or her family. Ms. Brooks also wrote definitive recommendations for the Department that will serve a wide range of stakeholders for years to come.

On volunteer time, she led federal workplace charitable initiatives such as Feds Feed

Families and the Combined Federal Campaign. She garnered the President's Award for exceeding Departmental fundraising goals with her infectious enthusiasm and innovation in inspiring others to participate in and enjoy giving. In addition, she served numerous charities in the New England region. Her colleagues at DHS will remember her love of service and learning; her passion for public service; and her integrity, good humor, justice, common sense, transparency and excellence in all she did.

I know my colleagues in the House join me in celebrating the life of Paulette Brooks and offering our deepest sympathies to those who knew and loved her.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE RESTORE OPPORTUNITY, STRENGTHEN, AND IMPROVE THE ECONOMY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Restore Opportunity, Strengthen, and Improve the Economy (ROSIE) Act. Millions of workers are part of the "federally dependent workforce" and hold low-wage jobs with federal contractors. Seventy percent of these workers are women and 45 percent are people of color. With so many workers dependent on federal contracts, the federal government has the ability to use its purchasing power to incentivize private-sector firms to create good jobs for American workers, rebuild the middle class, address income inequality, and invigorate the economy by increasing the purchasing power of working Americans.

Under the bill, Congress finds that the disappearance of good jobs, the shrinking of the middle class, and growing income inequality are the greatest domestic challenges confronting our nation. The federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the nation's private-sector economy, spending over \$1.5 trillion annually at firms that employ a quarter of American workers. Federal purchasing power is currently creating millions of poverty-level jobs, subsidizing labor-law-breakers, and funding ballooning executive compensation.

The bill also notes that the federal government is our nation's leading creator of low-wage jobs in the private sector, funding more than two-million jobs paying under 12 dollars per hour. The federal government awards taxpayer dollars to a substantial number of firms that violate federal labor, employment and occupational safety laws, and its purchasing subsidizes the excessive salaries of private-sector executives who do business with the American people. When federal purchasing power is used in such a manner, workers have less to spend on the necessities of life and are forced to rely on public assistance. Lack of purchasing power hurts job creation and undermines economic growth, ultimately imposing significant costs on American taxpayers.

Federal purchasing power can and should be used to create good jobs, rebuild the middle class, and curb rising income inequality. These good jobs would allow workers and their families to live in dignity without relying